Application No. 10/636,169

Amendment dated December 9, 2003

Preliminary Amendment

Attorney Docket No. 03-12389

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 22 with the following

rewritten paragraph:

-- Figures 6a-6d depict perspective and cross sectional views of an embodiment

employing a snap engagement for connecting the lanyard to a releasable container; --

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 1 with the following

rewritten paragraph:

--Figures 7a-7d depict various views of an exemplary embodiment of the

adjustable breakaway lanyard as configured to support a lighter; and--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 3 with the following

rewritten paragraph:

--Figures 8a-8b depict various views of the slideway mechanism used with the

lighter embodiment.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 3 with the following

rewritten paragraph:

-- Turning to Figure 3c, another exemplary embodiment of the lanyard 200 may

include end clips 300. The end clip 300 may be formed as a single piece or may be

constructed of two pieces with snap fittings. The end clip 300 acts as a stabilizing

device for the lanyard 200, and also enables a safety breakaway mechanism. The end

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clip 300 depicted in Figure 3c includes an outer surface defining a circular bore, but, as

those skilled in the art will appreciate, the bore may be shaped to accommodate the

shape of the lanyard 200, such as, but not limited to, a flat web lanyard configuration.

Figure 3e shows a cutaway view of end clip 300 and the optional tapered lanyard end

301 which operates similarly to other previously described safety breakaway features.

The tapered end 301 is depicted here as conical, but any shape of taper may be suitable

so long as the cross-sectional area of the lanyard 200 decreases substantially near its

end and then returns to normal size at its end. The effect of this feature is to reduce the

force necessary to implement the breakaway feature during an emergency. As with the

previous embodiment, the free ends 202 may be coated with polymeric material to

prevent fraying, although the coating in this embodiment should be relatively thin.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 1 with the following

rewritten paragraph:

-- Figure 8 illustrates an exemplary slideway mechanism 700 that can be used

with the lighter embodiment of Figure 7. Referring to Figures 8a-8b, the slideway 100

(as best shown in Figure 8b) operates as previously described. Figure 8b shows the

surface 702 in greater detail with lip 800 being configured for a semi-permanent

connection with a lighter.--

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